

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Peter Douglas, et al.

**Examiner:** Darwin P. Erez

**Serial No:** 10/736,199

**Art Unit:** 3731

**Filed:** December 15, 2003

**Docket:** ETH-5099 (16356)

**For:** VARIABLE STIFFNESS SHAFT

**Dated:** January 24, 2007

**Confirmation No.** 4355

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**ELECTION OF SPECIES UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.146**

Sir:

Pursuant to the Restriction Requirement imposed in the Official Action dated December 27, 2006, Applicant elects species II, drawn to Figure 8, for continued prosecution herein. Claims 1-12, 14, and 18-26 currently read on species II.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 140, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 24, 2007

  
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Frank S. DiGiglio